

CVAMC : GERIATRICS AND EXTENDED CARE SERVICES

CVAMC: Geriatrics and Extended Care Services (GEC)

Geriatrics and Extended Care Services provides Veteran centered care to older adults or veterans experiencing complications from chronic health issues.

An interdisciplinary team focuses on the veteran's individual needs, to enable each veteran to reach and maintain their highest level of functional ability, and enjoy an enhanced quality of life. We provide interdisciplinary assessment, health promotion and prevention education, stabilization of conditions and rehabilitation or restorative services to eligible veterans. GEC focuses on providing services so veterans can remain in the most beneficial environment, whether that means providing services in their home, placement in our Medical Foster Home program, providing short respites in our Community Living Center units or long term placement, and includes hospice care.

Services provided through GEC include: Hospice and Palliative Care, Homemaker Home Health Services, Adult Day Health Care Services, Respite care, skilled rehabilitation and nursing services in the home, and long term care placement in our Community Living Center or in a community nursing home. Such programs could contain a combination of the following services:

- **Interdisciplinary Care Planning** whereby the team meets with the veteran and/or family to develop goals for care
- **Inpatient care** to stabilize medical or mental health issues
- **Nursing care** which includes but is not limited to pain management, restorative nursing, wound care, etc.
- **Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Services** including Physical, Speech, Occupational, Kinesiotherapy and recreational therapy
- **Laboratory, Radiology and CAT Scan**
- Nutritional counseling and education
- **Home Based Primary Care (HBPC)** offered to homebound veterans. An interdisciplinary team comes to the home to provide service
- **Home Health Care** assistance with activities of daily living, light housekeeping and other services provided through an arrangement with local home health care agencies
- **Adult Day Health** care provided through an arrangement with local adult day care facilities
- **Skilled Nurse Visits** provided through an arrangement with local home health care agencies
- **Respite Care** provided at the veteran's home or in the CLC. Eligible veterans can receive up to 30 days a year of service (application on Coatesville website)
- **Home Safety evaluations** through our PMR and HBPC programs
- **Spiritual counseling** either on campus or CLCs or through HBPC
- **Bereavement counseling**
- **Hospice** offered in the home through an arrangement with local hospices or in our Hospice Inpatient Unit. A new eight bed hospice will open in 2013.
- **Community Nursing Home placement or admission** to our CLC if eligible
- **Spinal Cord Injury and Disorder referrals**
- **Veteran Directed Home care** to be provided sometime in 2013 through local area agencies on Aging and the Philadelphia Corporation of Aging
- **Medical Foster Home program** for eligible veterans involves placement in home settings with caregivers.

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Geriatric Referral and Eligibility

To determine eligibility status and learn about enrollment, please call 610-384-7711, or 1-800-290-6172, extension 5008 or 5034.

To apply for admission to VA inpatient Community Living Centers, Call Geriatrics and Extended Care Admissions Department at 610-384-7711, ext 5119, or ext 3812. Please provide your full name, full date of birth and full social security number, if not already registered at Coatesville VAMC

If already registered, please have your medical provider/social worker/caregiver obtain the following to submit for you:

1. Preadmission Information Application Form
 - Go to <http://www.coatesville.va.gov>
 - Click on Veteran Information (on right)
 - Click on Veteran Preadmission form
 - Download and print form, which can be faxed or mailed
2. Statement of understanding
3. Medical Records
4. Fax all above documents to 610-466-2260

Other information which may be required, annually:

1. 10-10EZ Application for Health Benefits
2. 10-10EC Application for Extended Care Services or VA services provided by private agencies
3. DD214 Service Discharge form
4. Statement of Understanding
5. Medical Records
6. Preadmission information

Community Living Center

The Community Living Center provides interdisciplinary, veteran centered care to eligible Veterans with stable medical or mental health conditions. The focus is to restore the veteran's ability to function in activities of daily living. Veterans are encouraged to participate actively in their own care, with the veteran's decision making, independence and dignity being stressed according to the Culture Change Initiative.

Services- The Community Living Center offers

- Nursing and restorative/rehabilitative care, both short and long term
- Behavioral health management related to stable issues, both short and long term stays
- Dementia care, both short and long term
- Respite stay offering caregivers relief from their 24/7 duties
- Hospice and Palliative care

For Program Information and Admissions, please contact , Nicolette Covato at 610-384-7711 x 5199.

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Golden Memory Clinic

Named for Dr. Gregory T. Golden, former chief of neurology research and development at Coatesville VA Medical Center, the clinic serves our Veterans who may have Alzheimer's disease, dementia, memory loss and other types of cognitive impairment. The clinic offers assessment, evaluation, treatment, and support services to veterans. We also offer educational and emotional support to caregivers.

Our Golden Memory Clinic offers the following services:

- Outpatient Care
- Testing and Evaluation
- Treatment and Support Services
- Medication and Nutrition Management Education
- Caregiver Safety Education
- Referral to Respite Care
- Annual Caregiver Conference

For more information about our Golden Memory Clinic, call Social worker for clinic, Cynthia Coston (610) 384-7711 extension 6801

Homemaker/Home Healthcare Services, Adult Day Health Care and skilled services

Homemaker Home Healthcare must be medically necessary, and ordered by a physician. Veterans are granted thirty days per year of in-home respite care, to provide relieve to primary caregivers. This care is in addition to regularly scheduled Homemaker and Home Healthcare visits.

These services may include the following:

- Assistance with bathing, toileting, shaving, dressing, incontinence care, and exercises to improve ambulation and transferring
- Medication supervision for veterans with memory difficulty with medications
- Laundry and light housekeeping
- Shopping. This service is limited due to liability issues, and transportation is not provided. Escort assistance to appointments may be provided.

Skilled service may be provided in the home should a veteran require the need of a licensed or registered nurse, or a rehabilitation specialist. A VA primary care provided must recommend such care, and it must be medically necessary.

For more information about Home Health Care and Adult Day Health Care, please call your social worker on your primary care PACT team. If you are not sure of Veteran's assigned social work, please contact social work services at (610) 384-7711, extension 5155.

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Hospice and Palliative Care

Hospice and palliative care focus on pain relief and comfort, rather than cure. Our center in Coatesville strives for a home atmosphere, with a fully equipped kitchen, a meditation room and a courtyard garden complete with waterfall. Additional beds will be opening in 2013.

We provide in-home hospice care through community based agencies whenever possible. Palliative care is a specialized “comfort” care for terminally ill veterans who do not qualify for hospice. Palliative care focuses on pain management alleviating discomfort. An active volunteer and spiritual counseling program, and bereavement counseling is available. Memorial programs are held on a regular basis.

For more information about Hospice and Palliative care services please call (610) 384-7711, extension 3130 (for Pat O'Rourke, RN, CHPN) or extension 3105/3929 (for social worker, Melanie Challstrom, LCSW).

CVAMC Medical Foster Home Program

For more information, please contact, Medical Foster Home Coordinator, Ferlin Charles, LCSW 610-384-7711, extension 2373

This program is for: Veterans who are seeking an alternative to assistive living or nursing home placements and wish to remain in a home environment.

Available services: Veteran receives 24 hour care and assistance along with room and board. The Veteran resides with a caregiver in a private home and becomes part of the family. The program offers independence, choice and an improved quality of life for the Veteran.

Who May Receive Services? Who is eligible?

This program is for eligible Veterans who are unable to live independently for physical and/or mental health reasons. Veterans receive their primary care through our Home Based Primary Care program. Veterans are required to have sufficient income in order to pay the caregiver for their services and may be eligible for Aid and Attendance benefit dependent upon time of service.

Appointments/ Refer to this program by: Medical Foster Home

For more information, please contact: 610-384-7711, extension 2373

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CVAMC : HOME BASED PRIMARY CARE

Veterans Affairs Medical Center

1400 Black Horse Hill Road

Coatesville, PA 19320-2096

Local - 610-384-7711

Toll Free - 1-800-290-6172

Home Based Primary Care - ext. 3373/3381

VA Nurse Health Line - 1-888-558-3812

The Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) program is designed to provide homebound veterans with primary care coordination. The HBPC team is interdisciplinary in nature and deals with a wide variety of veteran needs. Many of the veterans are elderly and live with a caregiver. They may have limited mobility or access problems which prevents them from being able to come to the VA for services.

Home Based Primary Care Mission Statement-The Coatesville VA Home Based Primary Care Program delivers quality primary care to eligible Veterans at home with dignity and respect. It utilizes the interdisciplinary team approach and addresses the medical, functional, psychosocial and spiritual needs of the Veteran. It is Veteran oriented, facilitates the access of needed care and supports the caregiver in maintaining the Veteran at home.

Once an assessment is made, interventions will be develop and formatted into a personalized care plan that may include the following:

- Medical Treatment
- Education, Training and Communication opportunities
- VA and Community Resources and Referrals such as Homemaker and Home Health Services, companion services, and skilled care needs such as rehabilitation, wound care, Meals on Wheels program, etc.
- Assistance with medical equipment such as oxygen, equipment to test blood glucose, etc.

The HBPC Social Worker can provide the following services as needed:

- Support groups for caregivers
- Network opportunities with extended family and friends
- Respite options and other referrals regarding placement opportunities such as LTC, Hospice and palliative care.
- Emotional support to veterans and families
- Financial benefit counseling
- Long Term Care Planning including information on advanced directives and Living Wills and estate planning

The HBPC Dietician will review the nutritional status of Veteran, making recommendations for change while educating the veteran and caregiver on diet changes. They will also explain food and drug interactions and considerations and will be an active member of the treatment team.

The HBPC Physical Therapist will assess the veteran's ability to function in their home with an emphasis on maintaining safety and improve function. S/he may order equipment to assist the veteran to care for themselves and may offer exercises to increase mobility and independence.

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HBPC offers the Telehealth Program which provides a unique opportunity to address both the medical and social needs of Veterans and enhance the existing care through the use of remote home monitoring technology.

The use of this system allows better care coordination and follow up on issues. The service is offered as a part of My Healthy Vet program and to find out more about the program you can access the site www.myhealthvet.com

Local - 610-384-7711 ext. 3373/3381

Toll Free - 1-800-290-6172

Home Based Primary Care - ext. 3373/3381

VA Nurse Health Line - 1-888-558-3812

* Source: Information on Geriatric & Extended Care Programs verified via Director, Denise O'Donnell and Social Work Supervisor for GEC/Primary Care, Kathleen Leonard, LCSW; 11/2012